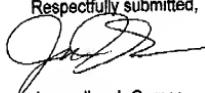


Applicant respectfully submits that that Chen et al reference is not a proper reference to cite against the claims of this case. The instant application claims priority (see preliminary amendment mailed 6/22/00) from a provisional application number 60/143,282 filed 07/12/99. The filing date of the Chen et al reference is 10/29/99. Because the filing date of the Chen et al reference is after the priority date of the instant application, Chen et al is not a proper reference to be cited in rejecting the claims of the instant application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 1-9.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections and allowance of claims 1-9. If the Examiner has any questions or other correspondence regarding this application, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney at the below listed telephone number and address.

Respectfully submitted,



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